

**REMARKS**

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated May 4, 2011 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claims 1, 8, 9, and 14 are hereby amended. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 1-16 are currently pending. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

For the purposes of the Office Action of May 4, 2011, the Examiner has selected a species that the Examiner has determined reads on claims 1-9 and 13-16. The Office Action of May 4, 2011, addresses the patentability of claims 1-9 and 13-16. Accordingly, for the purposes of this response, claims 10-12 are withdrawn as non-elected with respect to the current species under consideration.

Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. However, in order to expedite prosecution claim 9 has been amended. Applicants, therefore, respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

The Office Action also rejects claims 1-8, 14 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Azuma et al. (JP 2000-053677). The Office Action rejects claims 1-3, 5-7, 14 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chen et al. (US 2004/0106003 A1). The Office Action further rejects claims 3 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen et al. (US 2004/0106003 A1) in view of Sato et al. (JP 11-302639 A). The Office Action also rejects claim 16 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen et al. (US 2004/0106003 A1) in view of Suzurisato et al (JP 2002-324676) and over Azuma et al. (JP 2000-

053677) in view of Suzurisato et al. (JP 2002-324676). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicates that claims 9 and 13 recite allowable subject matter. *See Office Action at pp. 9-10.* In view of these statements, claims 1, 8, and 14 have been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 9 identified by the Examiner. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 8, and 14 and consequently dependent claims 2-7, 9, and 15-16 are patentable over the cited art. In addition, as indicated by the Examiner claims 9 and 13 are patentable over the cited prior art for the features recited therein.

It should also be noted that although the allowable subject matter of claim 9 was incorporated into claim 8, claim 9 still further limits claim 8 with respect to the non-elected species currently not under examination. Thus, claim 9 is still further limiting and thus a proper dependent claim.

The application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

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Respectfully submitted,

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